

Whales appear to be advancing further south every year. A steamer arrived at

EXTENSIVE FIRE IN YOKOHAMA.—One of the most extensive conflagrations with which Yokohama has been visited for some time past occurred on the 21st inst. The fire originated in a *saké*-shop on the Creek-side, close by Kaname-Bashi, at about 8.30 a.m. The neighborhood is densely populated, principally by the poorer class of shopkeepers, and artisans. Between four and five hundred houses were destroyed among them being a branch post office.

When the late Mr. J. E. Magon, the founder of the Alpha and Delta estates on Tairani, first conceived the introduction of the tea-plant, many people ridiculed what certainly appeared at the time to be a rather Quixotic venture. But Mr. Magon brought to his work a big heart and a sound head, with the result that to-day the cultivation of tea is looked upon as one of the easiest and best-paying occupations in the little Colony.—*Indian Planter's Gazette.*

We may have the chance of hearing a really talented singer in Hongkong before long. The *World* says:—*Ben Ruza*, and all success to Madame Maria Ruza on the professional globe-trotting travel on which she embarks at the conclusion of her present provincial tour! For the last five years Madame Ruza has been the mightiest singer

that of the celebrated Carl Rosa troupe, and now leaves to visit the principal cities of America, Australia, and Japan, by the P. and O. Company's route, and Japan and China.

THE quarantine system seems definitely to be given up in Italy. The Director-General of Hygiene has lately visited the different cities of South Italy, stopping some time at Brindisi and Taranto, in which latter place he has decided to make drains along the banks of the Maronecchio, finding it to be the source of miasma. At Brindisi, Genoa, Palermo, Venice, and Naples there will be instituted, instead of lazaretti, so many disinfecting offices, and the utmost care will be taken in inspecting the ships which arrive in these ports.

This famous *Great Eastern* steamship, which is now lying in the Clyde, has been purchased from the first mortgagee by a well-known firm of metal-brokers having establishments in London, Liverpool, and Swansea. Their Glasgow representatives are instructed to take possession of the vessel. It is understood that the huge hull is to be broken up, and of which portion this is estimated to be from 10,000, to 15,000. The cost of purchase was 16,500.

The *Ceylon Observer* says that the last party of missionaries of the China Inland Mission to make up the hundred additional agents for the planned mission to the Hudson's Bay Territory, left London on the 1st of May, 1887, at the beginning of 1887. They were organized into the Mission during that year, and

LUNCH and Legislation seem to be closely associated in Mauritius. In the proceedings of the Council of Government the following extraordinary passage is reported:—“M. E. Antelme withdrew the following questions: Whether it is to the knowledge of Government that under the administration of Sir John Pope Hennessy, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Mauritius and its

entreated with inquiries were properly treated and wanted nothing in regard to their lunch! Whether it was by Government authority that Mr Angus, Acting Storekeeper General, was guilty of sending to Henry Bassett on the 14th instant, 12 sandwiches and 18 small cakes—the whole enclosed in paper—without either napkins, plates, knives or glasses? Such lunch being intended for five, also led members composing part of a Committee entrusted with the examination of certain public works.

time, he endeavored to jump it but the distance was too far, and horse and rider were precipitated head first down the cavity, which was an old gravel pit 40 feet deep. Mr. Muntz was saved from certain death by falling on a projecting ledge, which broke the descent. He was stunned for a time, but speedily recovered. His injuries were, however, somewhat serious. His nose had to be sewn up with silver wire, his eyes were blackened, and he received no fewer than five deep cuts on the head, besides injury to the neck.

A CHINESE MAYOR.—*New York, December 14.*—The Chinese second-term politicians of Moit Street were defeated yesterday in an attempt to elect a municipal Chinaman, who will be practically Mayor of Chinatown for

The present Chinese Mayor, whose official term expires at 6 o'clock yesterday, was put up against his friends for re-election. The faction headed by Tung Wo & Co., merchants and bankers, and was opposed by a strong anti-second-term faction headed by Tam Lee, who has been in Hongkong since the late 1890's. Both factions were backed by both British Consulates and Imperial Customs officers who were stumped in all the joints, fan-tan and other gambling rooms in favor of a second term. At 10 o'clock yesterday the excited politicians gathered to headquarters on Cathman Street Square, where, before the great, seven-story building amid burning tea-sticks, the polling-machine took place. The anti-second-termer received 219 votes to Tung Gwin's 160. The Chinese Mayor, who was in his office, saw a little dark room about six by eight feet

Hongkong, January 29, 1898.	146	* Equalization of Dividend Fund.	† Depreciation and Insurance Fund.	‡ At debit,	Judges.	incurred at the accident	1899.	—
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Shm. 45 mins.
on - Full Moon 29d. 6h. 56m. morning.

COFFEE, CAKE AND KISSES.

I've dined on my final cup.
My heart, and mind and spirit;
I've snatched and snatched up;
Beside, I've been thinking
How swift has passed the last decade—
The space of a full moon—
Since you and I our breakfasts made
On coffee, cake and kisses!

The cake, my love, was always good,
Twas flaky, crisp and fragrant;
The coffee was a nectar brewed
To charm a capricious vagrant.
But crispier than the snowy cakes
(Fair little hands had mixed 'em)
Were the crisp kisses that would take
To sandwich in betwixt 'em.

We're sitting now at table spread
With dainties in the season;
The dishes savory odors shed
And taste has conquered reason.
But the confessions due, at least,
That cozier, far, than this is,
Was many a simple little feast
Of coffee, cake and kisses.

Our mental toasting, nowadays,
Is done on easy coral;
They've learned a hundred tricky ways
To introduce a moral.
And this is true; that not alone
With rolling purples blue is it;
Twas pleasant dwelling in the zone
Of coffee, cake and kisses.

—Chicago Tribune.

SEAMEN OF SPAIN.

Take to you care,
Seamen of Spain!
Bring me my lover
Across the seas!
Across the seas!

As round your galley
The billows roll,
Wild thoughts are swelling
Within my soul;
Hear to the call,
Fresh in the breeze;
Bring me my lover
Across the seas!

Thou'ld be the water,
And chill winds blow,
My love's fire burneth
Within the snow;
Whirl the waves,
Gleaze through the billows
Fly with the breeze;
Bring me my lover
Across the seas!

Dark rocks are frowning,
The risk is great;
To tread the path
Of the narrow strait;
God will assist ye,
Go with the breeze;
Bring me my lover
Across the seas!

The winter is over,
No time to wait;
On through the pass
Of the narrow strait;
God bless the galley,
And bless the breeze,
That brings my lover
Across the seas!

—J. G. Gibson (Translation) in The Week.

THE PERIDIVIOUS PROFESSOR.

I rang for Julia to bring my tea upstairs,
And hunted for the sal-volatile to compose
My nerves. The new Professor had arrived
To deliver his first lecture to the pupils
of the Helioptrope Female Academy. As the
"accomplished principal" so the newspaper
express it—of this great institution, I
consider it my duty to have a professor of
science added to my corps of teachers.

I sounded well in speaking to my "Professor
East, of Waterloo Academy." I must say it
was the aim of my life to have everything
appear much better than it really was. As a
teacher, meeting with a few scholars, I
consider it my duty to have a professor of
science added to my corps of teachers.

I informed the ladies, "middle-aged,
learned, and companionable for intellectual
woman like ourselves." The teachers all
agreed with me, but Colonel Noel, my
wealthy patron, demurred at the proposed
advance. He came in just as our meeting
adjourned. Being a woman, and as Eva
had taken her history lesson into the study
to learn, I begged him to sit down and tell
us how he managed his dear motherless
children.

"I don't manage them—blessed if I do.
I've turned them over to you ladies to
manage. Keep them, raise them, Jack Norris
away from my eyes. That's all I ask. Bless
my heart, what can I do with a parcel of
girls on my hands?"

Miss Wrenham wiped her eyes and Miss
Leonard gave a sigh, and raised her eyes to
the ceiling as she said, "Poor motherless
girls!"

"My dear Colonel, I said, in a sympathetic
tone, for he certainly glared at me while
speaking, "in my position the care of
lovely, innocent girls has become a tender
study. I do not see it. The only trouble
to me is that my care of them is short, too
short."

"So it is, and a confounded shame, too,
and the Colonel looked at me again,
straight in the eyes.

"In my position, wisdom, and
forethought are required," I said again, in my
most impressive manner. "I may safely
claim for myself these requisites to a perfect
manager of young girls."

The Colonel laughed good-naturedly as
he added, "I'll laugh, good-naturedly as
she will have a nice fortune of her own,
and that second Norris knows it."

"In my position," I remarked for the
third time, "the ultimate good of my
charges is the aim of my life. Under my
roof dearer Eva is secure. Mr. Jack
Norris will never attempt to molest me.
He may be a bold rascal, but Mr. Jack
Norris won't venture to trifle with me."

Colonel East was emphatic in his assent
to this assertion. "He's a dare-devil, Norris
is, a wild harum-scarum, worthless
scamp, but blessed if I believe he'd have
the hardihood to defy you," laughed my
chief patron, in that complimentary way
of which always showed me in a quite
way his preference for myself. I had num-
berless answers to my advertisement for a
Professor, but I tossed them all aside, and
engaged Professor East.

The moment my eyes rested upon him I felt intuitively
that the very person I desired had presented
himself. So handsome, so very handsome,
himself, he put me in a quite
in spite of immense green goggles so gentle
and refined and so good, so innocently good
—I engaged him at once on the easiest
terms. Indeed, Professor East declared
himself so appreciative of the great advantage
of enjoying our society that he almost
forgot the question of salary. He was quite
indifferent to money. I found him in a quite
to come for a mere pleasure, which went far
to bias me in his favour, as it always does
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teachers. The flutter of nerves mentioned
above was occasioned by the arrival of the
Professor. He was actually in the house.

All the teachers were struck by his lago-
nized manner, and his straightforward, beau-
tiful candour.

"He says he never met a more charming
set of ladies," observed Miss Leonard, and
I don't flatter me, you dear, naughty

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not to be his taste at all," he says, and
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"Ma! Your eyes indeed!" ejaculated
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"He yows my rousseau nose is piquant,
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"I don't believe in flattery," interjected
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man so amazed when I told him I was a
teacher. Miss Wrenham looked every day
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"He is very near-sighted," I reminded
her. "Not at all," insisted Miss Wrenham. "He
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Putting on my glasses I drew out a note.
It was from the Professor. I was deter-
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"He says in this note: 'I am
coming early to have better opportunity
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mired for her talents and erudition.'"

"Without the smallest notice of a decidedly
outrageous laugh, I folded the note and went
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I made some strong points, to which he
yielded without argument. Miss Wrenham
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When we were passing into the lecture
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that she laughed rather prettily. Before
I could speak to her the Professor said in a
low tone, "What a grand figure you have,
my dear lady—quadruple, positively quadru-
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I heard that ally Eva titter so rudely that
common decorum induced me to send her
to a back seat. She is considered beautiful
by some people, but to my thinking her
face is weak; besides, she has a round,
chubby figure. I had it from the Professor
himself that he admired a queenly figure.

The lecture was rather obscure, of course.
I saw that the Professor was very deep, but
I am not sure the girls appreciated their
privilege. Eva Noel turned very red, and
almost choked with laughter. It had
been anyone else than Professor East I
might have imagined that he became a
trifle mixed and confusing on the mission
strata, but then he was certainly a hand-
some man. By the merest accident I hap-
pened to be in the hall when the Professor
was putting on his evening dress, and found
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I must say that my common knowledge of
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strata, but then he was certainly a hand-
some man. By the merest accident I hap-
pened to be in the hall when the Professor
was putting on his evening dress, and found
teachers around him in an admiring circle.
I must say that my common knowledge of
human nature never evinced itself so
distinctly as when I engaged Professor East.

He turned at once to me and spoke
fit the most complimentary manner of my
observations of the tertiary epoch. No-
thing more interested me so much. We must
talk it over thoroughly; it is most abor-
ing, he declared; "besides, we don't of-
ten have the advantage of such an intel-
lect as yours to elucidate abstruse matters."
Which proved how very much interested he
was in this subject.

Eva Noel came in from the library for a
book just as the Professor closed the door
behind him. I noticed that she wore a
button-hole bouquet with a longemum and
rose and myrtle, which I am positive the
Professor wore while delivering his lecture.
The artificial mix must have picked it out
somewhere.

"How did you come by those flowers,
Miss Eva?" I demanded severely.
The girl turned very red. "Somebody
gave them to me," she said in insolent dis-
gance.

"You wicked girl, broke in Miss Wren-
ham to do your number. And as Eva
Sapient! Those are the Professor's flowers.
You put, vain creature to suppose he would
give them to a chit like you—it is shame-
ful."

Eva reddened more and more, but I could
see that she was titillating and laughing to
herself while I sent her to bed. "I will
speak to Eva to-morrow. She can't trifle
with me. I do believe I can see through a
millionaire. No one can blind me, I said in
a tone of deep meaning.

"Someone ought to give the Professor a
hint of Eva's duplicity," suggested Miss
Leonard.

"Perhaps it would be just as well to give
him a hint of her shocking behaviour to-
night, for he certainly glared at me while
speaking, 'in my position the care of
lovely, innocent girls has become a tender
study. I do not see it. The only trouble
to me is that my care of them is short, too
short.'"

"So it is, and a confounded shame, too,
and the Colonel looked at me again,
straight in the eyes.

"In my position, wisdom, and
forethought are required," I said again, in my
most impressive manner. "I may safely
claim for myself these requisites to a perfect
manager of young girls."

The Colonel laughed good-naturedly as
he added, "I'll laugh, good-naturedly as
she will have a nice fortune of her own,
and that second Norris knows it."

"In my position," I remarked for the
third time, "the ultimate good of my
charges is the aim of my life. Under my
roof dearer Eva is secure. Mr. Jack
Norris will never attempt to molest me.
He may be a bold rascal, but Mr. Jack
Norris won't venture to trifle with me."

Colonel East was emphatic in his assent
to this assertion. "He's a dare-devil, Norris
is, a wild harum-scarum, worthless
scamp, but blessed if I believe he'd have
the hardihood to defy you," laughed my
chief patron, in that complimentary way
of which always showed me in a quite
way his preference for myself. I had num-
berless answers to my advertisement for a
Professor, but I tossed them all aside, and
engaged Professor East.

The moment my eyes rested upon him I felt intuitively
that the very person I desired had presented
himself. So handsome, so very handsome,
himself, he put me in a quite
in spite of immense green goggles so gentle
and refined and so good, so innocently good
—I engaged him at once on the easiest
terms. Indeed, Professor East declared
himself so appreciative of the great advantage
of enjoying our society that he almost
forgot the question of salary. He was quite
indifferent to money. I found him in a quite
to come for a mere pleasure, which went far
to bias me in his favour, as it always does
when hard to pay out so much money to
teachers. The flutter of nerves mentioned
above was occasioned by the arrival of the
Professor. He was actually in the house.

All the teachers were struck by his lago-
nized manner, and his straightforward, beau-
tiful candour.

"He says he never met a more charming
set of ladies," observed Miss Leonard, and
I don't flatter me, you dear, naughty

English teacher. "He says the girls are
not to be his taste at all," he says, and
young things, he says my eyes are lovely.
"Ma! Your eyes indeed!" ejaculated
Mam'selle Adèle, the French teacher.
"He yows my rousseau nose is piquant,
charmant—ah, monsieur—is one grand
gentleman."

"I don't believe in flattery," interjected
Miss Wrenham. "Nobly! think me by
compliment!" The Professor thought I
was one of the girls; indeed, I never saw a
man so amazed when I told him I was a
teacher. Miss Wrenham looked every day
of her forty-five years.

"He is very near-sighted," I reminded
her. "Not at all," insisted Miss Wrenham. "He
only wears glasses to shade his eyes, and
he always says just what he thinks."

Putting on my glasses I drew out a note.
It was from the Professor. I was deter-
mined to read it merely as a check to their
quite and correct, but as I began,
quite and correct, but as I began, quite and
correct, but as I began, quite and correct,

"He says in this note: 'I am
coming early to have better opportunity
of knowing a lady whom I have long ad-
mired for her talents and erudition.'"

"Without the smallest notice of a decidedly
outrageous laugh, I folded the note and went
to my room to read my letter to the mis-
sionary period. The Professor was to lecture on
the mission period. After taking my seat
and leaving my glasses on the table—I
always made me look ten years older—I
went down to see Professor East. To my
amazement, there sat Mam'selle Adèle in
her best black and white with crimson trim-
mings, talking in her extensible foreign way.

There on the other side was Miss Leonard
in her best black, smiling in bland amibi-
lity. Miss Wrenham in her Sunday cash-
mere girded him in front. To do the Pro-
fessor justice, he seemed restless and in
evident expectation